

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A cylinder lock (1) and key (2) combination, said key (2) comprising a key blade (200) having, at a side surface (201) thereof, a longitudinally extending ~~groove (202) with a side wall (203) forming a longitudinally extending coded side~~ surface (203) with longitudinally spaced code surface portions each representing an element of a key code, and said cylinder lock (1) comprising

- a cylinder shell (140),
- a key plug (130) which is rotatably mounted in said shell,
- a longitudinal key slot (100) extending along said key plug in parallel to the rotational axis thereof for receiving said key blade (200),
 - at least ~~one side tumbler assembly (110) having a pair of adjacent body segments (113, 114) each two side tumblers (113, 114) in said key plug for locking said key plug against rotation relative to said cylinder shell, unless a correctly coded key is inserted into said key slot, each side tumbler being provided with a contact finger (115, 116) reaching sideways into said key slot so as to engage with said coded surface (203) of a properly shaped key blade being inserted into said key slot, and~~
 - at least one side cavity (120) located at a transversal side of said key slot (100) in said key plug (130), said ~~at least one~~ side cavity accommodating ~~an associated pair of body segments and guiding the latter~~ said side tumblers for elevational movement therein,

characterised in that wherein:

- said adjacent side tumbler body segments (113, 114) in said pair are located at least two side tumblers are distributed pair-wise, with two adjacent side tumblers (113, 114) located in a respective side cavity on the same side of said key slot, and are freely movable independently of each other in said

said adjacent side tumblers (113, 114) in each pair being linearly guided but independently movable in the respective side cavity so as to be individually displaced linearly into respective elevational positions, and

- said associated contact fingers (115, 116) on the adjacent side tumblers in each pair having contact portions facing in the same direction and being in said pair are axially separated in the longitudinal direction of the key plug such that these contact portions fingers are located at a longitudinal distance from each other on the same side of said key slot and will be positioned at elevationally specific and generally different code levels when being engaged by two neighbouring, longitudinally spaced code surface portions (204, 205) of said coded surface (203) upon insertion of said key blade (200) into said key slot (100),

- whereby the said at least two side tumblers side tumbler body segments (113, 114) in each pair are displaceable, upon insertion of said key blade into said key slot, into individually specific elevational code positions, and each set of such elevational code positions representing a different key code with an increased number of code elements, a pair

~~of side tumblers corresponding to two code elements into a number of different positions relative to each other representing different codes.~~

2. (Currently Amended) A cylinder lock and key combination as defined in claim 1, wherein ~~a body segment (113, 114) of each side tumbler in each pair is guided in a respective portion of said at least one side cavity (120), the contact fingers (115, 116) of these side tumblers in said pair projecting outwardly in parallel from said side cavity into said key slot each segment in said pair of adjacent side tumbler body segments (113, 114) is guided in a respective portion of said cavity (120).~~

3. (Previously Presented) A cylinder lock and key combination as defined in claim 2, wherein said pair of adjacent side tumbler body segments (113, 114) have supplementary cross-sections, which together substantially correspond to the cross-section of said cavity (120).

4. (Currently Amended) A cylinder lock and key combination as defined in claim 3, wherein said adjacent side tumbler body segments (113, 114) of said pair ~~being substantially defined by half-cylindrical are partially defined by part cylindrical surface portions being~~ guided by wall portions defining said cavity (120).

5. (Previously Presented) A cylinder lock and key combination as defined in claim 3, wherein said adjacent side tumbler body segments of said pair have mutually engaging surface portions (113a, 114a) being in sliding engagement with each other.

6. (Previously Presented) A cylinder lock and key combination as defined in claim 5, wherein said mutually engaging surface portions (113a, 114a) are substantially planar.

7. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A cylinder lock and key combination as defined in claim 1, wherein said key plug (130) contains a row of side cavities (120), ~~at least one of which accommodating a pair of adjacent side tumbler body segments (113, 114) each such side cavity accommodating a pair of adjacent, independently movable side tumbler body portions.~~

8. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A cylinder lock and key combination as defined in claim 1, wherein said key plug (130) includes at least one ~~side locking tumbler assembly (113,114)~~ pair of locking tumblers (113, 114) in a side cavity (120) on each transversal side of said key slot (100).

9. (Currently Amended) A cylinder lock and key combination as defined in claim 1, wherein said ~~pair of adjacent side tumbler body segments~~ at least two side tumblers (113,

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Attorney Docket No. 0091-0239PUS1
Art Unit 3676
Page 6 of 15

114) cooperate with a side bar (150) being accommodated in a longitudinal recess (151) in said cylinder shell (140), said side bar (150) being adapted to normally lock the key plug against rotation in said shell and to be displaceable into a releasing position upon insertion of a properly coded key blade (200) into said key slot (100).

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A cylinder lock and key combination as defined in ~~claim 10~~
claim 2, wherein said contact fingers (115, 116) are positively guided in said longitudinally extending groove (202) ~~upon insertion of said key blade into said key slot.~~

12. to 18. (Cancelled)